

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

2SD1
u5

Forest Service NEWS



511

Pacific Northwest Region
USDA • Forest Service

Pacific Northwest Region
Public Affairs Office
333 S.W. First Ave.
P.O. Box 3623
Portland, OR 97208

5193
AUG —
News Contact:
(503) 326-2729
Bill Von Segen

C-11
7-6-93

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TWO NORTHWEST COMMUNITIES TO RECEIVE \$60,000 IN FOREST SERVICE GRANTS

PORTLAND, July 6--Regional Forester John M. Lowe of the USDA Forest Service announced today that two Pacific Northwest communities will receive \$30,000 each in federal grants to help them diversify their economies. The communities--Mapleton, Oregon, and Hoquiam, Washington--are 2 of 23 rural communities in fifteen states receiving the grants.

According to Lowe, "The funds are intended to help devise plans to diversify their economies." The grants specifically help communities that are dependent on forest resources, or which have economic bases threatened by reductions in supplies of raw materials from federal lands.

Mapleton, Oregon, will use its grant for a two-phase feasibility study to assess potential opportunities for value-added wood products manufacturing and increased use of underutilized hardwoods.

In phase one, the community will identify its infrastructure, labor, and raw materials assets. In phase two, it will construct a network of companies that could use these assets in expanding or beginning new manufacturing processes.

In Washington, grant money will help support a study of ways to revitalize a recently closed pulp and paper complex in Hoquiam. The study will also look at product alternatives ranging from traditional paper products to new wood fiber-based products incorporating recycled materials.

The funds will be used to study ways these communities can move away from strong or sole dependence on a single resource like timber. Many studies are designed to explore economic alternatives--such as value-added wood products manufacturing, recycling technologies, high-value agriculture, and tourism/recreation industries--that can take advantage of available resources.

###

